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**From:** Gutierrez, Raul [Gutierrez.Raul@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 4/1/2016 8:42:54 PM  
**To:** Martinez, Maria [Martinez.Maria@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Spanish Lake LRAM  
**Attachments:** Spanish Lake 01april2016.doc

I have attached what I believe was the last background/briefing sheet we had on Spanish Lake. In case it isn't the latest, I copied the update below so that you can paste it into the latest briefing sheet, or just pass along the update to Bill.

**Update (01 April 2016):**

The New Orleans District of the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has adopted the Louisiana Rapid Assessment Method (LRAM) to assess credits for impacts and compensatory mitigation. The Corps converted the credits for Spanish Lake Mitigation Bank and kept the mitigation type (Re-establishment, Rehabilitation, Enhancement, etc.) as Preservation for this bank. The bank has objected and is requesting the mitigation type be reclassified as enhancement due to the role the sponsors played in opening the culverts in Alligator and Frog bayous where they empty into Bayou Manchac. While the culverts are located off the bank, the MBI is written so that the sponsors may be able to claim enhancement credits for their efforts in restoring a more natural hydrologic regime to the Spanish Lake Basin. At this time, it is incumbent on the sponsor to provide additional information and a formal request to the Corps to have the credits reclassified as enhancement. Once the Corps feels that the request and information provided are adequate, they will forward the documents to the Interagency Review Team for additional review and comments.

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